

LEADERSHIP BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY

POLICY REGARDING REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION

The policy of Leadership Bartholomew County regarding the requirement for graduation from the LBC class program is that class members who miss two or more sessions will not be able to graduate that same year. Graduation status may be obtained the following year by attending the sessions most closely corresponding to the missed sessions during the following year's LBC class program.

The LBC Board of Directors and Program Committee have compressed the LBC classes into half-day sessions (as opposed to the full-day sessions of the past) in order to accommodate the busy working and personal schedules of class participants. In addition, the requirement of years past to attend additional sessions and to develop a class project, outside of the formal class sessions, was eliminated. Learning about the issues and participating in the discussions related to the focus of each class is the sole requirement for graduation. If a class is missed, the material offered during that class is not learned and the related issues cannot be discussed by the individual missing the class. One missed class is understandable; two missed classes constitutes one quarter of the entire LBC class and, therefore, must be made up the following year.

The LBC Board of Directors and Program Committee are made up of volunteers who do not have the time to arrange for make-up classes or other activities that would lead to learning the missed information. Members of the Board and Program Committee have selected the focus of each class in an attempt to cover the most prominent issues in the community and assume that individuals taking the LBC class want to participate in discussion about these issues. If the various aspects of these issues are to be learned and synthesized, the particular classes taking up these issues must be made up the following year, and it is assumed that class members who want to learn about the community would rather graduate the following year, having learned about the issues they missed, than to participate in a volunteer make-up opportunity that may not cover all that was discussed in the missed classes.

The members of the LBC Board of Directors and Program Committee believe that allowing frequent absences (and late arrivals and early departures) damages the quality and integrity of the program and slights those class members who have arranged their schedules according to the LBC class sessions in which they have agreed to participate.